**Moscow State University**

**Final Project**

**«Youth culture of Britain and of Russia»**

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**Part 1. INTRODUCTION**

Speaking of youth culture, it is impossible not to mention the youth subculture, moreover, these concepts are so interrelated that they can replace each other, because in today's rapidly changing world, it is impossible for the young man not to get lost in the rapid flow of information. And because almost no teenager could be called the realized in society (at least because of the young age), teenagers trying to find themselves and fulfill their potential among their peers or older youth (the latter also contributes to the enhancement of self-realization of a teenager). Thus, inevitably teenagers join youth subcultures, and even if they deny their affiliation to one or another youth subculture, they will be imbued with the aesthetics of one of them. Also, it should be noted that in the modern world there are so many youth subcultures and their derivatives that no scientists had managed to organize absolutely all of the youth subculture yet. Therefore, this report will focus on three of the most famous youth subcultures: EMO, punks, skinheads in the context of countries such as Britain and Russia.

Young people have a particular relationship with the world. There are many groupings (subcultures) that have interests different from those of the mainstream culture. A particular cultural grouping is a way for young people to express their individuality.

By the mid-60s teenagers had begun to form distinct cultural groupings. Most young people in Britain follow some kind of youth culture: rockers, hackers, ravers, skinheads, hippies, Goths, punks, bakers, emos, neformals, visual kids, metalists, alternativists, modes, straight-ages, heppers, hip-hop, football hooligans, gamers, anarchists, green, netballs, new-ages, jappies, nudists, pudonks, religious subcultures, gravity records, etc. A subculture is a way of life. It isn’t a fan club, it’s a real life. It seems to them that the parents are always saying: No! That everything about them: their hair, their music, clothes, the way they talk, their dreams are considered bad by grown-ups. The young people are unsure of where they are going. Often young people do something not because they want to do it. They do things because everybody around does or because they think it’s impolite to refuse.

The inspiration to form a youth culture comes out of a combination of fashion, style and music. A subculture is a group with a distinct style and identity. Different subcultures have their own beliefs, values, fashions. Members of different subcultures may have something similar in their image, behavior etc.

Today the life of many young people in Russia as well as in other countries of the world is influenced by popular culture. The young follow certain stereotypes that are imposed on them through TV, movies, and music. In their lifestyle they try to imitate the images of their idols. Other young people are sports and music fans. They frequent stadiums and huge concert halls. They follow their idols in their tours and support them. Unfortunately they are intolerant to those who don't share their view. It's a specific aspect of the youth subculture that can't be ignored.

According to the statistics punks, skinheads and emo-kids are the most popular subcultures among teenagers. So let’s get acquainted with them and find out who they are.

### Part 2. PUNKS in Britain and in Russia (Attachment 1)

### PUNK also known as PUNK ROCK aggressive form of rock music that coalesced into an international (though predominantly Anglo-American) movement in 1975-80. Often politicized and full of vital energy beneath a sarcastic, hostile facade, punk spread as an ideology and an aesthetic approach, becoming an archetype of teen rebellion and alienation.

Punks believed in separating themselves from society as much as possible; thus the odd dress and rude style. Many times these punks are associated with anarchy. Although most all punks were about anarchy, they believed that government was evil, and that a government society could never be perfect; the government was as far from Utopia as one could get. By the early 1980’s, punk went underground and underwent many changes. These changes were the formation of subcultures.

**PUNK’S CLOTHING**

Black leather jackets adorned with shiny metal spikes and studs, combat boots, spike multi-colored Mohawks (Mohawk - a strip of hair left on the top of the head, running from front to back), slam dancing, and fast 3-chord rock and roll; all icons of the movement know as “punk”.

Punks formed a style to disassociate themselves from society. They refused to dress conservatively, wearing clothing such as ripped or torn jeans, t-shirts or button-down shirts with odd and sometimes offensive remarks labeled on them. This clothing was sometimes held together with band patches or safety pins, and the clothing rarely matched; such patterns as plaid and leopard skin were a commonplace. It was not unusual to see a large amount of body piercing and oddly crafted haircuts. The punks dressed (and still do) like this to separate themselves from society norms.

**PUNKS IN RUSSIA**

The mass media of SSSR have received the information on the punk first of all from Western press - which was actually inaccessible in Soviet Union.

As a result, young people listened to Western music, watched Western movies and copied Western styles of clothing. In the 1970s, young Russians still listened to classic rock, like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and Deep Purple, or art rock, and a vast majority of them never even heard the word “punk The first people who called themselves “punks” emerged in Leningrad in late 1979 and early 1980, and they had a rather vague idea of what punk was about.

### Part 3. SKINHEAD (Attachment 2)

   Skinhead origins begin in Britain in the mid to late 1960's. Out of a youth cult known as the "Modes," the rougher kids began cutting their hair close, both to aid their fashion and prevent their hair from hindering them in street fights.

These working class kids adopted the name "Skinheads" to separate themselves from the more dainty and less violent Modes. Huge groups of these explosive youths would meet every Saturday at the football grounds to support their local teams. The die hard support for a group's team often lead to skirmishes between opposing supporters, leading to Britain's legendary "football violence." When night swept the island, the skinheads would dress in the finest clothes they could afford, and hit the dance halls. It was here they danced to a new sound that was carried to Britain by Jamaican immigrants.

Skinheads have spread to every part of the globe. Each country supports an independent history of skinhead goals, values, and appearances. The definition of "skinhead" varies from country to country, which doesn't say too much since it also varies from city to city.

**SKINHEAD’S CLOTHING**

To emphasize the class association, skinheads have developed own fashion: a warm jacket or a short coat, rough trousers with «an eternal arrow», long, up to knees, a jackets and heavy strong high boots of building workers and Dockers, it is desirable «Dr. Martens », it is desirable with durable, reinforced with steel. Skinheads have opposed short hair.

**SKINHEADS IN RUSSIA**

In Russia skinheads have appeared in the beginning 90. In 1992 in Moscow were about ten skinheads. They conducted silently, basically were engaged in narcissism and demonstration of in city centre. These very first skinheads were pure product teenage imitations: they diligently imitated the western samples.

**Part 4. EMO in Britain and in Russia** (Attachment 3)

The term "Emo" is used as counterculture; it is an abbreviation of the word "emotional". Emo it's defining not only an attitude, but also a fashion that are coming from emocore (emo music). Emocore is a combination between hardcore and punk music which was very popular in Washington DC in the late 80's. The emo culture continued to develop between '90 and '00, reaching the height of its popularity today.

The term for the teenagers who listen emo core is emo kids. The society thinks about them as failures; they are not strong enough to hide their emotions, they're sensitive, shy, introverted, and often quiet. Usually, Emo kids like to express their feeling writing poems about their problems with depression, confusion, and anger; all because the world fails to understand them. Themes such as life is pain are common. Although life is already very hard for them, emo kids have to suffer for even more society prosecution because of their condition. Emo subculture is aсcused that it is celebrating self-harm.

**EMO’S CLOTHING**

The first is an emo-hairdress. Here are pertinent painted in black colors, grease hair. They should be cut shortly off in front by the razor and cover half of person. Behind the hair dress should be slightly tousled. For emo-fight whiskers and glasses in a thick black frame are actual. The emo-clothes are heavy trousers, usually very dense and short. Trousers from polyester also will approach. The top will be decorated with thin jackets of very small size with the top number of buttons and a collar or a vest with casual slogans on them or with sports numbers on a back. Close jackets and a sweater. A sweater of dark tones with a cross-section strip. One more bright attribute - a scarf, it is desirable bright соlors, or combining two colors, for example black and pink. Jackets of workers of a gasoline station - this "chess piece" has received a wide circulation last years. For emo style every possible stripes and badges, wallets with a circuit, but even more abruptly - the big ring for keys approach. The emo-make up reminds popular Gothic style - the eyes brought by a black pencil, and he will approach both for guys, and for girls.

**EMO-CULTURE IN RUSSIA**

The Russian teenagers have quickly picked up the western current of emo-culture. It is obvious, that people who humiliate this direction in our country has appeared much more, than admirers. The first speak about unnaturalness of the similar phenomenon in Russia. In their opinion, the tracing-paper taken from the West, contradicts true culture of former Soviet Union. Others assert{approve}, that representatives of this direction differ an early age, and such experiences are just characteristic for young, not taken place and emotional teenagers, that is seriously to concern to such culture does not cost. The third assert, that the desire emo-kids to be "itself" and thus precise following to instructions such as « as should look I rub - emo » - more than is paradoxical. Admirers assert that in Russia there are some the musical groups which have based a direction emo. However, even known Russian singer Mara has taken in head to let out an album in style emo. If representatives of show business count on rather new movement, it means in our country all becomes more popular. On the Internet it is possible to find huge quantity of resources where suggest to order stripes, футболки, badges, bracelets and even настенные calendars in style emo. How this direction in our country will get accustomed or will leave traces on culture of Russia, will show time.

**Part 5. CONCLUSION**

I think that subculture is the culture of those who are dissatisfied with their place in society. Youth has a lot of problems wherever it lives. On the one hand it is the problem of education – how to get a good one and that which will be necessary and worth in the future. The other problem is the problem of a good job with a good salary. It is not an easy thing to find one now. One should be a very good specialist for that.

One more problem also exists - it is the problem of communication with right people and companies. Teenagers are often influenced by so-called “bad guys” and begin to smoke, take drugs and drink. They do not listen to their parents. But this problem is solvable and parents should be a little more attentive to their children and correct their behaviour where possible.

**Part 6. Attachments**

1. 
2. 
3. 

**Part 7. SOURCES**

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